

Thursday, May 10, 2007

House Meets At...	Votes Predicted At...
9:00 a.m. House Convenes/Recesses 10:00 a.m. For Legislative Business	Last Vote: 9:00-10:00 p.m.
Ten "One-minutes" Per Side	

Any anticipated Member absences for votes this week should be reported to the Office of the Majority Whip at 226-3210.

Floor Schedule and Procedure

- **Former Members' Meeting:** In order to accommodate the annual meeting of the Former Members' Association, the House will begin its business today with the following schedule:
 - 9:00 a.m.-House convenes then will recess immediately for the Former Members' Association meeting.
 - At the conclusion of the Former Members' meeting, the House will reconvene for Legislative Business.
- **H.R. 1873-Small Business Fairness in Contracting Act (Rep. Braley-Small Business/Oversight and Government Reform):** The bill was debated on Wednesday. Ordered votes on the bill will occur today and are expected to occur in the following order:
 - Vote on the Sestak amendment.
 - Vote on the Shuler Amendment
 - Vote on the Bean Amendment
 - Potential vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
 - Vote on final passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to VOTE YES on final passage of the bill.**
- **H. Res. 388-Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2082-To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes (Rep. Alcee Hastings-Rules):** The structured rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. The rule makes in order the substitute reported by the Intelligence Committee as an original bill for the purpose of amendment. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without

instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Hastings (FL.) and consideration will proceed in the following order:

- One hour of debate on the rule.
- Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the motion.**
- Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**

- **H. Res. 387-Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2206, H.R. 2207, and H.R. 2237 (Slaughter-Rules):** The closed rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2206, the U.S. Troops Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007; H.R. 2207, the Agricultural Disaster Assistance and Western States Emergency Unfinished Business Appropriations Act, 2007; and H.R. 2237, to provide for the Redeployment of United States Armed Forces and Defense Contractors from Iraq.

For H.R. 2237, the rule provides one hour of general debate in the House equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule contains one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

For H.R. 2206, the rule provides one hour of general debate in the House equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. It provides that the amendment printed in Part A of the report shall be considered as adopted. The rule contains one motion to recommit on H.R. 2206 with or without instructions.

For H.R. 2207, the rule provides one hour of general debate in the House equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. It provides that the amendment printed in Part B of the report shall be considered as adopted. The Rule contains one motion to recommit on H.R. 2207 with or without instructions.

The rule also provides that in the engrossment of H.R. 2206, the Clerk shall await the disposition of H.R. 2237 and H.R. 2207 and shall add the respective texts of H.R. 2237 and H.R. 2207, as passed by the House, as new matter at the end of H.R. 2206 and shall make appropriate conforming changes. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rules Committee Chair Rep. Louise Slaughter, and consideration will proceed in the following order:

- One hour of debate on the rule.
- Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the motion.**
- Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**

- **H.R. 2082- To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes (Rep. Reyes - Intelligence):** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Intelligence Committee Chair Rep. Reyes, or his designee, and will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the bill.
 - Debate and vote(s) on amendments to the bill.
 - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
 - Vote on final passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**

- **H.R. 2237 - To Provide for the Redeployment of United States Armed Forces and Defense Contractors From Iraq (Rep. McGovern-Appropriations):** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Appropriations Committee Chairman Rep. David Obey, or his designee, and will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the bill.
 - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
 - Vote on final passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**

- **H.R. 2206, the U.S. Troops Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Rep. Obey-Appropriations):** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Appropriations Committee Chairman Rep. David Obey, or his designee, and will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the bill.
 - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
 - Vote on final passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**

Bill Summary and Key Issues

Amendments to H.R. 1873, Small Business Fairness in Contracting Act

Sestak (PA)/Chabot (OH): #9, (REVISED) Requires greater economic analyses by agencies on contracting actions that displace small businesses, and closes current loopholes that have allowed agencies to avoid performing analyses on new work and construction. Also ensures increased competition in the federal marketplace as well as more equitable treatment of small companies.

Bean (IL)/Chabot (OH): #8, The amendment would raise the government-wide small business procurement goal from 25 percent to 30 percent.

Shuler (NC)/Chabot (OH): #10, The amendment extends small business contracting goals to overseas contracts.

H.R. 2082- To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes

Authorizes the largest amount for intelligence ever considered in a single bill – evidence of how important intelligence has become to our national security.

Promotes responsible budgeting and oversight by shifting resources from the supplemental to the base budget – allowing officers in the field to plan their operations properly, particularly in the counterterrorism arena, and allowing Congress to review funding requests.

Makes key investments to strengthen intelligence. Adds funds to both CIA and military elements for Human Intelligence (HUMINT) training. Invests in language training for collectors and analysts and in language translation capabilities. Adds funding for sending additional analysts overseas. Strengthens counterintelligence field operations.

Promotes efficiency and effectiveness of intelligence programs by streamlining acquisition, trimming the fat from ineffective programs, eliminating redundant activities, requiring greater strategic focus in some key areas. *The bill does not, as some claim, make deep cuts in any intelligence programs. In one area – related to supplemental funding for Iraq – the bill reflects bipartisan concerns about excessive spending on programs that lack a strategy or metrics for evaluating its effectiveness. These funds are shifted to enhance coverage of other global challenges, such as Iran, Russia, East Africa, and Asia.*

Requires quarterly intelligence updates to Congress on nuclear programs of Iran and North Korea. Requires the CIA Inspector General to conduct an audit of each covert action program not less than once every three years.

Requires reports to Congress on the use of contractors in the Intelligence Community. Requires a strategy for implementing a multi-level security clearance system -- to allow patriotic Americans to serve as translators or linguists in the IC. Promotes diversity in the IC by requiring a strategic plan for implementing the

recommendations of a key diversity panel. Follows the recommendations of several former military commanders in requesting that the National Intelligence Council produce a National Intelligence Estimate on national security impact of global climate change.

Anticipated Amendments to H.R. 2082- To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes

Flake (AZ): The amendment would strike subsection (b) of section 308, which places a restriction on community management funds until a strategic plan to increase diversity is submitted to the Intelligence Committees. (10 minutes)

Hoekstra (MI): The amendment would strike section 407, which requires that a National Intelligence Estimate on global climate change be submitted to Congress. (10 minutes)

Holt (NJ): The amendment would amend the reporting requirement in the Intelligence Identities Protection Act (codified in Sec. 603 of the National Security Act) to include a requirement that the President, based on information from the Director of National Intelligence, provide Congress with an assessment of the need for any modification to existing law to improve legal protection for covert agents. (10 minutes)

Thompson, Mike (CA): The amendment requires that the Office of the Director of National Intelligence submit a report to the Congressional Intelligence committees, no later than 120 days after enactment, that provides: (1) the number of collectors and analysts, by agency, and (2) a plan to maximize the number of collectors and decrease the number of personnel authorized to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. (10 minutes)

Rogers, Mike (MI)/Hastings (FL): The amendment would place a limit on the number of personnel in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI). ODNI would only be authorized the number of personnel as were serving in the office on May 1, 2007. (10 minutes)

Fossella (NY): The amendment authorizes \$5 million for a study conducted by DHS and the Director of National Intelligence to identify the best practices for sharing terrorist-threat information between the Federal, State, and local levels of government. It also authorizes \$10 million to establish centers of best practices based on the study with \$3 million authorized for the following five years to cover operational expenses of the centers. (10 minutes)

Lee (CA): The amendment requires a report to House and Senate Intelligence committees describing any authorization granted during the past 10 years to engage in intelligence activities related to the overthrow of a democratically elected government. (10 minutes)

Price, David (NC): The amendment would require the Director of National Intelligence to submit a report on the uses of contractors for personal services activities. The report would examine the functions currently performed by contractors, regulations regarding training and vetting standards, costs savings achieved by the use of contractors, and activities that are appropriate or inappropriate for performance by contractors. (10 minutes)

Berkley (NV): The amendment requires the Director of National Intelligence to submit to Congress a report on the advisability of providing Federal retirement benefits to employees of Air America. (10 minutes)

Schiff (CA)/Flake (AZ): The amendment states that the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (FISA) shall be the exclusive means by which domestic electronic surveillance for the purpose of gathering foreign intelligence information may be conducted, and makes clear that this applies until specific statutory authorization for electronic surveillance, other than as an amendment to FISA, is enacted. (10 minutes)

H.R. 2206, the U.S. Troops Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007

This bill supports our troops and honors our veterans.

- The bill fully funds the troops over the next two-three months – ensuring that they have everything they need to conduct their mission.
- The bill also includes additional funding for the troops, not requested by the President, including more for military health care and for Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles in Iraq.
- The bill includes additional funding to improve military readiness.
- The bill includes an additional \$1.8 billion to meet veterans' unmet health care needs.

This bill holds President Bush and the Iraqi government accountable – by fencing \$52.8 billion of the \$95.5 billion provided to the Defense Department until released by subsequent legislation.

- The American people are demanding that President Bush and the Iraqi government finally be held accountable.
- This bill requires the President to confront the realities of the Iraq war and take account of the facts on the ground.

First, the bill requires the President to submit a report to Congress by July 13 regarding the success of the Iraqi government in meeting security and political benchmarks.

- The President must report progress by the Iraqi Government in meeting key security benchmarks, articulated by Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki himself in January, including eliminating militia control of local security, disarming the militias, and giving Iraqi Security Forces the authority to pursue all extremists, including Shiite militias.
- The President must also report on whether key political benchmarks, announced by President Bush himself in January, have actually been accomplished by the Iraqi government, relating to such issues as enacting a bill to equitably share oil revenue among all Iraqis, reforming current laws governing the de-Baathification process, providing for provincial elections, and amending the Constitution.

Secondly, within 7 legislative days after receiving the report in July, both the House and Senate would vote on whether to release the remaining defense funds. The bill guarantees two votes by Congress in July.

- The bill guarantees a vote on an amendment to the measure releasing the remaining defense funding, which would provide that this funding could only be used for planning and executing the redeployment of U.S. troops from Iraq within 180 days of the bill's enactment, with only limited exceptions to this redeployment for troops for training and equipping Iraqi troops, targeted counterterrorism operations, and force protection.
- The bill also guarantees a vote on the underlying measure releasing the remaining defense funds.
- Expedited procedures are included in the bill to guarantee that the votes take place in both the House and Senate by the end of July.

The bill also includes the minimum wage/small business tax relief package, as well as funding for certain key domestic emergencies, including the following:

- \$6.8 billion for Hurricane Katrina recovery (including \$3.3 billion that the President requested and \$3.5 billion in additional funding)
- \$2.25 billion to improve homeland security
- \$663 million for pandemic flu preparedness
- \$400 million for LIHEAP
- A net of \$396 million for SCHIP to ensure health care for low-income children

H.R. 2237 To Provide for the Redeployment of United States Armed Forces and Defense Contractors From Iraq

Compels the Drawdown of U.S. Troops to Begin within 90 Days. The bill would require the Secretary of Defense to begin the redeployment of members of the Armed Forces and contractors operating in Iraq within 90 days of the enactment of the legislation.

Allows 180 Days to Complete Redeployment of U.S. Troops from Iraq. The bill would further require that the redeployment be completed within 180 days from the date it began, or within 270 days of the enactment of the legislation.

Prohibits Any Funding of the Surge. The bill would expressly prohibit the use of any funds appropriated to the Department of Defense to increase the number of Armed Forces personnel serving in Iraq in excess of the number serving as of January 1, 2007.

Protects Sound Military Decision-making Regarding Redeployment. The bill would leave the decision on the locations outside Iraq to which the U.S. troops should be redeployed to the commanders in the field.

Protects U.S. Citizens in Iraq, Continues Robust Pursuit of Terrorists, and Trains Iraqi Forces. The bill would permit the continuing deployment in Iraq of Armed Forces personnel for limited purposes, including protection of the U.S. Embassy, U.S. diplomatic missions, and U.S. citizens in Iraq, engaging in targeted special operations limited to the pursuit of members of al-Qaeda and other terrorist organizations with global reach, and training and equipping the Iraqi Security Forces.

Prohibits Permanent Bases in Iraq. The bill would ensure against any permanent U.S. military bases in Iraq.

Provides for a Safe and Stable Iraq. The bill would allow the continued funding of training for Iraqi Security Forces, support multinational forces engaged in security and stabilization efforts, provide for diplomatic, social and economic reconstruction activities in Iraq, and make asylum and other means of protection available to Iraqi citizens endangered by the redeployment.

Quote of the Day

“Even a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.”—Lao-tzu, Chinese philosopher (604-531 BC)

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